



POETRY.

From the Oberlin Evangelist.

OUR GUILTY LAND.

Is this the proud 'home of the brave'?
Do we live in the 'land of the free'?
Is he who dares whisper of rights for the slave,
Imprisoned, and branded to be?

Are the dungeon with padlock and bar,
The lash and the shackle and cord,
The recompense meted to him who shall dare
Against slavery utter a word?

When the chain of the tyrant is broken,
When royalty bows in the dust,
When the monarch of Europe in thunder has spoken
In the ear of oppression and lust,

How the quickened blood leaps in each vein,
At the crash of the sceptre and crown!
What a pean goes ringing o'er mountain and plain,
When the throne of the tyrant goes down!

We stretch forth our arms to the Frank,
We shout for the Latin and Hun,
While anon from the South, lo! the dissident clank
Of the chains we have riveted on!

Alas for thee! land of my birth!
Must thy proud sons be taunted and told,
By the thighbone tyrants that trample the earth,
Of thy shambles, where manhood is sold?

That the shien of thy glorious stars
Is gone out in an evil eclipse,
That the young spirit cringes at fetters and bars,
And is dumb before menace and whip?

We cover our faces, and blush
At the thought of the crime and its stains;
For 'e'en here in the land of a Franklin and Rush,
There is a stain on the flag of the free.

There is a stain on the 'home of the brave',
There is blood on the skirts of thy ruler and thee,
My country, the home of the slave.

For oppression is rampant in night,
In rapine and murder and lust,
And Liberty stretcheth her pinions for flight,
For her martyrs cry out from the dust.

PRUDENT ADVICE.

BY G. W. LIGHT.

'His prudent soul danced on a silver sapphire till it
lost its breath.'

When poor people want assistance,
You must never pass them by—
But, at a convenient distance,
See the sorry rascals die.

Should they come you, however,
In your necessary walk,
Then, with softened shrug, endeavor
To console them with your talk.

Gaze askance, with solemn sockets,
While you proffer them your prayers;
Don't disturb your frightened pockets,
Hold your tongue concerning theirs!

If you must survey their trouble
With your justice-beaming eyes,
Tell them you have seen full double
That, with less than half their cries.

But inform them, that you really
Hope they may see better days—
For you always loved them dearly,
Though you must condemn their ways.

Should they hint at bread and butter,
Cant of heavenly food the best:
If they mention shelter, mutter
All about celestial rest.

Show that they may mend their breeches!
Pockets, if they'll heed advice;
Bid them bite, like hungry leeches,
Scratch, like cats among the mice.

'Mind them of their bull-dog's gripping,
Of the plump estate of swine—
Not the least occasion slipping,
Promising a chance to dine.

Tell them of the gold of labor;
Tell them of the wealth of care;
If they ask, 'Who is our neighbor?'
Growl—the ghost that's everywhere!

Then go home, and make thanksgiving
You were born to fare so well—
Thriving on your holy living,
With no soul to lose or sell.

LAMENT OF THE GOLD-DIGGER.

BY E. CUTTS HINE, C. B. N.

'Tis evening, and I stand alone
On San Francisco's desert shore,
The wandering night-wind sadly moans,
And shrieking sea-birds round me roar.

The weary sun hath sunk to sleep
Beyond the great Pacific's wave,
While here I stand and idly weep
That I have been to gold a slave!

O, curses on the maddening cry,
That echoed through my own green land,
And sent me forth, unwept, to die
Upon this lonely desert strand!

With spirits fresh the hills I trod,
And, in the eager strife for gain,
Forgot my country and my God,
And severed fancies flattered my brain!

It came at last the bitter thought,
That I was linked with toiling slaves,
Whose very life-blood had been bought
By selfish and designing knaves.

But all too late conviction came,
And with a downcast, fearful eye,
I thought, with anguish and with shame,
I'd chased an echo here—to die!

O, vain was all our strife for wealth,
We ploughed the bed of many a stream,
All idly, and with ruined health,
Heaped curses on our fevered dream.

That drove us from our homes away,
Athwart the ocean's furrowed breast,
That were our homeless famines' guest!
My heart goes sick—my eye grows dim.

As o'er the wretches I gaze,
And powerless drops each nerveless limb,
And manhood's pride and strength decay,
Adieu, my childhood's home! for fate
Hath dimmed the brightness of my sky,
I've 'dag' my grave, and found too late
I've chased an echo here—to die!

FROM THE PERSIAN OF SAADI.

A soldier sought his teacher—'What shall I do,'
said he,
'With those unasked for visitors, who steal my time
from me?'
The learned Master answered—'Lend money to the
poor,
And borrow money of the rich—they'll trouble you
no more.'
When Islam's army marches, send a beggar in the van,
And the frightened host of infidels will scamper to
Japan.

The Liberator.

MEETINGS OF THE FRIENDS OF EQUAL SCHOOL RIGHTS.

The four last Monday evening meetings at the Belknap Street Church have been fully attended, and scenes of an enthusiastic interest, and a fine indeed, there has never been an occasion when the colored citizens of Boston were so united and persevering in a progressive movement; and there are abundant grounds for the hope that a glorious victory will soon reward their strenuous exertions, and amply compensate for their many sacrifices.

These Monday evening gatherings have not been specially devoted to elaborate and lengthy speech-making, but rather as free and easy sessions, where the men and women have imparted their various experiences, compared notes, suggested plans, and encouraged each other's hearts by renewed pledges, that come what may comes, they will, shoulder to shoulder, contend for equal school rights, until the schemes of prejudice and expediency are alike driven to the wall, and full and impartial justice become, in fact, the crowning glory of the Boston School Committee Board.

The following resolutions are among those advocated and adopted at the general meetings:—

Resolved, That the signs of the times are indeed most cheering, and that instead of a relaxation in the least degree of our efforts for the equal school rights of our children, we are daily encouraged to renewed exertions. The interest already excited by the subject, in the school houses, in the family circle, in the highways and byways of the city, as also the discussion in several journals and other avenues to the public mind; and last, though far from least, the manner and matter of the opposition, are to be individually and collectively recognized as influences that will, and that speedily, promote the object so dear to our hearts as co-laborers in the cause of freedom and humanity.

Whereas, when our victory shall be achieved, even those few among us who turn the cold shoulder of indifference or the heel of their active opposition upon the anticipated reform, will alike with us be permitted to bask in the full sunshine of its advantages; therefore,

Resolved, That we cannot but regret that there should be found one among us to attempt a palliation or defence of those whose present position is an obstacle in the march of a people's reform.

Resolved, That while we hold ourselves the supporters of freedom of thought and opinion, we are not prepared to give license to those of an obnoxious and mercenary character, when their expression or exercise proves detrimental to justice and equality.

Resolved, That the essential difference between the opponents and the friends of equal school rights can be no better defined than by a comparison of the principles of the American Colonization and the American Anti-Slavery Societies; the former would consign us to an isolated position because of our complexion, while the other would bestow upon us every social and political right, the inherent credential of every American citizen.

Rev. Mr. Stockman, of the Wesleyan Church in this city, (who, together with his congregation, has enlisted in the good cause,) on each evening has participated at the meetings, and won the gratitude of those whose rights he so earnestly advocates.

Rev. Mr. Foster, the volunteer teacher of the temporary school—a man of noble deeds as well as eloquent words—submits most encouraging facts relative to the pupils under his charge, inspiring parents with confidence in his mental and moral fitness for the responsible duties he has assumed. His eloquent appeals to their perseverance for the right, and non-compliance with the wrong, are evidently producing the best results; his indignant rebuke of those who would urge the people to be content with their chains, are unanimously responded to. Go on, he says, until Cornwallis surrenders, and Dr. Beecher learns that it is always expedient to do right.

Jeremiah B. Sanderson edited the audience by a history of the free schools in his native town, New Bedford, where colored children assemble with others, and all travel hand in hand up the hill of science.

Mr. Briggs, recently editor of an anti-slavery paper in Vermont, administered some plain truths on self-respect, as a most direct means of elevation, and deprecated the inequalities of the present social system. He maintained, that all men, being created equal, should stand together upon one platform, and let their merits, and not their complexion, determine their elevation of character. He narrated a colored child among the green hills of Vermont, where a child was for a long time proscribed and insulted because of her complexion, and debared by an entire school from their society; but the perseverance of her guardian, and her own good deportment, at last melted the pro-slavery opposition, and she was at length regarded as an equal, and soon found access to the warmest friendship and highest grade in the scholars' department. Several of those children who then taunted her complexion, are now among the most faithful and zealous friends of the slave and the nominally free colored American.

Henry Bibb, in an eloquent train of remark, alluded to several instances where colored men have been betrayed in the most suspicious manner of a freedom struggle by traitors from among their own number. This had been true not only at the South, when efforts were being made to break the tyrant's chain, but in the free North, in the light of the nineteenth century, could colored men be found, who, for a price, would sell their brethren into degradation and disgrace.

Wm. G. Allen favored the meeting with an instructive speech on the mental powers and abilities of the colored man, showing, in a peculiarly happy manner, that a man's mind is not colored by his skin.

Wm. J. Watkins concluded an effective speech by a reminiscence of his first interview with Wm. Lloyd Garrison—himself a child when the pioneer of immediate emancipation was a prisoner in Baltimore jail. After his liberation, Mr. Garrison visited his father's house, and on leaving said to him, 'If you live to be a man, be an abolitionist.' These words were indelibly impressed upon his soul, and wherever he found pro-slavery or prejudice bearing upon his fellows in suffering, he ever meant to make their cause his own, and to battle for the right.

Benjamin Weedon, in alluding to the pending trial between Benjamin F. Roberts and the city of Boston, for damages consequent upon his child's exclusion from the public schools, cited the name of Paul Cuff, who, being a tax payer, was yet not allowed to vote, entered an action at law, which resulted in securing to himself, and every colored citizen of the Old Bay State, the elective franchise. He hoped that both examples would be appreciated in a manner becoming freemen.

John T. Hilton animated the friends to keep their banner floating in the breeze, reminding them of the repeated triumphs achieved on Massachusetts soil by the united hands and hearts of free men and free women, and warmly rebuked those persons who, in the spirit of slavish indifference, remark that colored children are unfit to associate with those of a favored hue. He regarded such persons as unworthy the name of men or Christians, and believed that like the rich man and Lazarus, the unenviable position of the former would yet be theirs, while the now persecuted colored children will enjoy the blissful realization of their heaven-inspired rights.

Robert Morris, Jr., in a spirit-stirring speech, animated upon the recent petty maneuvers by the teachers of the Smith School, by which a boy having been sent on an errand to the school house, was maliciously dragged to the Police Court, and a fine imposed upon him as a disturber of the peace—this being but one link in the chain of injustice which we all must unite to sever. Let us war upon the whole scheme of wickedness, and let the measures for our success become the great thought of our lives.

John J. Smith, who recently removed from Boston to Fall River, to obtain equal school rights for his children, and Wm. Johnson, who removed to Cambridge for the same purpose, contributed their share to interest the meetings.

Henry L. W. Thacker and Wm. Brown narrated their conferences with the School Committee and teachers, for an admittance of their children to the district schools.

Wm. C. Nell, Henry Weedon, James L. Giles, Mr. Williams, James Scott, and others, both men and women, severally added their word to help the cause along.

It having been suggested that quite an interest was being created in various towns in the Commonwealth in behalf of our cause, and that an agency to solicit funds therefrom was to be established, Rev. Mr. Foster submitted a series of resolutions, recently adopted by a large meeting of the friends of humanity in Danvers, in which they expressed sympathy for our movement, and bade us God-speed in every means calculated to consummate our object. This communication elicited hearty applause, and the following response was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That we recognize in this act of the people of Danvers, the true and holy spirit of liberty, which knows no color, tongue or clime.

Resolved, That we cannot, in so many words, express our deep and heartfelt gratitude for their sympathy in our cause, but act hereafter shall prove to them that those feelings and sympathies have not been unworthily bestowed, but are hailed by us as the greatest encouragement to continue in our efforts.

The Committee earnestly call upon the friends of impartial freedom to furnish them with the pecuniary means of sustaining the temporary school; for though but an experiment, it is an indispensable one, relative to that great issue, requiring our willing sacrifices, untiring exertions, and fondest aspirations.

Boston, Oct. 23, 1849. W. C. N.

THE SMITH SCHOOL.

BROTHER GARRISON.

The following resolutions were offered last Sunday evening to a very large anti-slavery meeting at the Free Chapel in North Danvers, and adopted with almost entire unanimity. On motion of J. P. Harrison, it was also voted, that Mr. Foster request the Essex Freeman, the Boston Republican, and the Liberator, to publish the resolutions which the people so heartily endorsed and adopted. Will you, therefore, give them a place in your paper, and thus gratify your numerous readers in Danvers?

Resolved, That we most earnestly sympathize with the colored people of Boston, in their noble struggle to secure their right to entire equality of privilege with the white citizens in the public schools.

Resolved, That we cannot express our abhorrence of the course pursued by the professed ministers of Jesus, who are on the School Committee of Boston, and are united in keeping up an atrocious prejudice against a weak and proscribed portion of the human race.

Resolved, That we have no terms in our language adequate to the expression of the intense detestation which we feel in view of the conduct of Dr. Edward Beecher upon this question, who, acknowledging the justice of the earnest request of the colored citizens of Boston for free admission to the public schools, did nevertheless vote against their just petition, with this unholy excuse for that act, viz., that public opinion in Boston is not ready for the adoption of this righteous measure.

Resolved, That we regard the fact, that no one of the ten clergymen of Boston who are members of the School Committee is standing up before the world in this cause for the right, while there is one lawyer, Charles T. Russell, a member of the same Committee, who does stand forth the advocate of justice on this issue, as deeply significant of the position of open and certain compromise with popular wrong, on every question vital to humanity, now occupied by the popular ministry of this day.

Resolved, That we can have no confidence in the piety of such men, nor can we indulge the least hope of aid to the suffering brotherhood of mankind from their labors in the pulpit or in the world.

DANIEL FOSTER, Chairman.

North Danvers, Oct. 22, 1849.

ANOTHER CHAPTER OF SOUTHERN A-TROCITIES.

An Election Rencontre.—At Louisville, on Tuesday last, a terrible rencontre occurred at the polls. Mr. Seymour, editor of a German paper, was first assaulted by a Mr. Grey and a Mr. Means, when pistols and bowie knives were drawn, and four shots fired by different persons, besides volleys of bricks. It resulted in several being bruised and battered, and in a boy about 10 years old being killed by a ball entering his chest. None of the parties were arrested.

Essex Weatherford was killed by a slave, near Edgefield, South Carolina, on Sunday, the 23d ult. It seems that Weatherford attempted to prevent the negro from visiting his sweetheart, on a neighboring plantation, when the latter shot him.

St. Louis, Sept. 10.—Six cases of highway robbery and two of murder occurred in the neighborhood during yesterday and last night.

Murder at Jackson, Miss.—On the 18th ult., the quiet of Jackson, Miss., was disturbed by the killing of John Spire, by his brother-in-law, Joseph Johnson. Johnson was fully committed to stand his trial for murder, the next term of the Circuit Court of Hinds county.

Shooting.—The Frankfort (Ky.) correspondent of the Louisville Journal says that on the 10th of Thos. H. Benton lately stabbed Mr. Lyons, of Louisville, slightly. Mr. Benton was about accompanying a lady from the parlor of the Weisiger House to her room. Mr. Lyons, on the 10th, shot at Mr. Benton, and the latter was wounded at the proposition, and soon after, in an adjoining parlor, the stabbing took place.

Captain John Howard was shot in St. Louis, by a man named Lonsdale, the wound proving mortal.

Mr. Jack Kirby, of Spartanburg, while whipping one of his negroes a few days since, was struck on the head by the father of the boy with an axe, and his life was put in imminent danger, but we learn he is recovering. The boy was to be tried on the 14th inst.—*Asheville (N. C.) Messenger, Aug. 1st.*

Thomas O'Harran, a deck hand on board the steamer 'Fride of the West,' had a difficulty with the clerk of the boat, on Thursday night, and was soon after missing. Yesterday his body was found floating from the water near where the boat had been moored, having, as is supposed, been stabbed and thrown overboard. The boat had previously departed for New Orleans.—*St. Louis paper.*

Retaliating.—Mr. William Berry, of Lawrence county, Ark., killed James Marshall in April last. On the 26th inst., as Mr. Berry was passing through Berry in his cornfield, and killed him on the spot. No discovery has yet been made.—*Jackson Mississippi.*

Attempted Murders.—The Clarkeburg (Va.) Republican says that a few days ago, while Mr. Andrew Henderson, of that place, was engaged in looking over some papers, at a desk, which stood near one of the front windows of his house, some bold villain fired a pistol at him through a broken pane of glass. A negro man has been arrested on suspicion, and lodged in jail.

Luke Jacob, of Doddridge county, was on Friday last attacked by a man named George Whitehair, who first discharged his rifle at him, the ball taking effect in his right arm, and afterwards threw him upon the ground, and beat him upon the head with a rock, and then attempted to strangle him. The parties had been quarreling for a number of years. Mr. Jacob's arm had been amputated, and he was in a critical condition.

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Slave Hunt.—The execution of the negro Eddy took place at Spartanburg, S. C., on the 14th inst. His crime was an attempt to kill his master, inflicting a dangerous wound upon him. A large and dense crowd assembled to witness the execution, and at an early hour, to witness the procession to the gallows.

Bloody Business.—In Bardonia, Ky., R. L. Wickliffe, a lawyer, shot W. P. Grey, a blacksmith, his near neighbor. They had long been on bad terms. Grey lent a gentleman one of his horses to go into the country. On his return, Wickliffe met him and asked the use of the horse to go to a religious meeting. He complied, and accompanied Grey. G. says, W. shall not use my property, and mounting a horse, found his own tied to a tree, and took him home. Wickliffe then threatened to shoot him. A short time after, no words intervening, Wickliffe came out of his office, and resting deliberately his double-barrelled gun against a locust tree, shot Grey in the side, as he was about to enter his own gate, and the use of the horse to go to a religious meeting. He complied, and accompanied Grey. G. says, W. shall not use my property, and mounting a horse, found his own tied to a tree, and took him home. Wickliffe then threatened to shoot him. 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